1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	W. Handloom Woven Textiles	86.17	26928	34.03	10009	30.42	8691
	Total	537.53	167975	660.73	194333	998.31	285231
9.	Acrylic Knitwear	92.90	29031	94.05	27662	97.20	27771
10.	Woollen Readymade Garments	355.00	110937	390.94	114982	550.40	157257
	Grand Total	985.43	307943	1145.72	336977	1645.91	470259

[Translation]

Statement of Chief Justice

*250. KUMARI UMA BHARATI:

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the statement made by the Chief Justice of India that the judges of the Supreme Court were under pressure to withdraw from the Bench hearing the Jain Hawala case;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government attach utmost importance to the independence of judiciary and would not like it to be compromised at any cost. No one from the Government was authorised to speak to the judges in the matter and no one from the Government spoke to the judges.

Cobbler Societies

*251. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cobbler Societies especially in Maharashtra have preverted the priority sector lending norms of the Reserve Bank of India and the tax concessions, subsidies including modified automatic refinance facilities allowed by the Union Government under the Khadi and Village Industries Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether nearly 1000 crore worth of subsidy benefits meant for small cobblers have been systematically ferreted away;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it has issued guidelines relating to lending to "Priority Sector" to all banks which are required to be followed by them, while advancing loans. Banks, in turn, prescribe detailed procedures for effecting such lendings to various segments of Priority Sector. Banks are also required to follow their internal regulations regarding documentation etc. RBI has further reported that so far as lending to cobbler societies by banks are concerned, these are done under the Modified Automatic Refinance Scheme (MARS). The advances granted under MARS are eligible to be classified as Priority Sector advances. As reported by the Khadi & Village Industries Board (KVIB), Maharashtra, two cobbler societies of Maharashtra were paid interest subsidy on bank finance availed by them under the Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate Scheme of Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and the amount involved in these two cases was Rs. 7.36 lakhs and Rs. 10.62 lakhs respectively.

(e) The KVIC which is under the administrative control of the Department of Small Scale Industries and Agro & Rural Industries has lodged a complaint to the Commissioner of Police, Mumbai against the two societies and the matter is under the investigation of Mumbai Police (Economic Offences Wing).

Delicensing of Industries

*252. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to exempt some more industries from licensing requirements;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the benefits likely to accrue to the entrepreneurs and the country as a result thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to exempt the remaining industries from licensing requirements;